

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected the pending claims as follows. Claims 4 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Gustafsson reference from Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement (hereinafter Gustafsson) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,711,147 (Barnes).

Regarding the Examiner's rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph, the Examiner states that there is no antecedent basis for the term "the data." Claim 4 has been amended as indicated above to overcome the Examiner's rejection based on §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the §112, second paragraph rejection of Claim 4.

Regarding the Examiner's rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph, the Examiner states that in Claim 9 a second registration request message is sent from the second GGSN to the first GGSN. However, the Examiner notes that Claim 7 recites a second registration request message which is sent to the second GGSN. Accordingly, the Examiner requested clarification as to whether these messages are the same. Claims 7 and 9 have been amended as indicated above to overcome the Examiner's rejection based on §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the Examiner is

respectfully requested to withdraw the §112, second paragraph rejection of Claims 7 and 9.

Regarding the Examiner's rejection of independent Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner states that Gustafsson teaches all the elements of Claim 1 except "that the foreign agents and the gateway foreign agents are GGSNs, Gateway GPRS Support Node," which the Examiner states is taught by Barnes. The Examiner further states that Gustafsson teaches "[t]ransmitting a location registration request from the mobile node to the first (foreign agent) FA, upon receiving information that the first FA supports a foreign agent function and also receiving an Agent Advertisement message," as recited in Claim 1.

Upon review of the cited references, it is believed that the Examiner is incorrect. Gustafsson discloses a general Mobile IP system which is disclosed in the background section of the present invention. Barnes discloses receiving a first mobile internet protocol registration request by an agent of the mobile internet protocol network serving the mobile node; and sending a second mobile internet protocol registration request to a serving node in the cellular telephone network, requesting that the serving node serve as a proxy. Moreover, Barnes discloses sending a location message to the register from the proxy; after the location message has been received by the register, sending a first registration reply to the serving node; and after the first registration reply has been received by the serving node, sending a second registration reply to the agent.

In contrast to that which is disclosed by the cited references, the present invention

is directed to the application of mobile IP in a European asynchronous communication system and is also directed to reducing the amount of equipment necessary in a GGSN communication system. Although Gustafsson discloses technical features which may be similar to those of the present invention (e.g., a procedure of broadcasting a FA function, a GFA function for an MN to request location registration, or a location registration procedure), however, these technical features disclosed by Gustafsson are general procedures which are necessary for the application of mobile IP. In contrast, the present invention enables a CN to access an MN directly without passing a GGSN having a GFA function and therefore avoids wasting resources by using an agent advertisement message as opposed to using information in a broadcast format.

Moreover, Gustafsson discloses a regional registration (i.e., a registration local to a visited domain). Although Gustafsson discloses a foreign agent typically announces its presence via an Agent Advertisement message, Gustafsson does not disclose “transmitting a location registration request from the mobile node to the first GGSN, upon receiving an Agent Advertisement message with an address of the second GGSN and information indicating that that first GGSN supports a foreign agent function, said Agent Advertisement message being transmitted by the first GGSN,” as recited in Claim 1. Moreover, there would be no reason for Gustafsson to teach a GGSN supports a foreign agent function, because as taught by Gustafsson, all foreign agents are only foreign agents. Furthermore, this recitation is not taught by Barnes. Accordingly, it is believed that the Examiner’s rejection based on §103(a) of Claim 1 should be withdrawn.

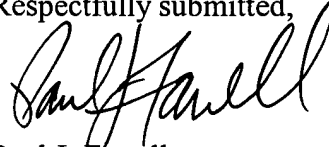
Regarding the Examiner's rejection of independent Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), the Examiner states that Gustafsson teaches all the elements of Claim 7, except "that the foreign agents and the gateway foreign agents are GGSNs, Gateway GPRS Support Node," which the Examiner states is taught by Barnes. Upon review of the cited references, it is believed that the Examiner is incorrect. Gustafsson discloses a regional registration (i.e., a registration local to a visited domain) and that the "'I' flag (see Section 4) MUST be set to indicate that the domain supports regional tunnel management, and that the availability of a GFA is advertised in the Agent Advertisement message" (Gustafsson, Page 7, Section 3.3). Gustafsson does not disclose creating by the mobile node a *GTP (GPRS Tunneling Protocol)* tunnel and receiving through the created *GTP* tunnel an Agent Advertisement message indicating whether a second GGSN serves as the foreign agent or the gateway foreign agent, if the mobile node enters a region of the second GGSN" as recited in Claim 7 as amended. Moreover, this recitation is not taught by Barnes. It is believed that Claim 7 as amended overcomes the Examiner's §103(a) rejection. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claim 7 based on §103(a).

In light of the discussion above, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1 and 7 overcome the stated rejections and are in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-6 and 8-10 it is respectfully submitted that these claims are also in condition for allowance by virtue of

their dependence on Claims 1 and 7, respectively.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written in a cursive style.

Paul J. Farrell
Reg. No. 33,494
Attorney for Applicant

DILWORTH & BARRESE, LLP
333 Earle Ovington Blvd.
Uniondale, New York 11553
Tel: (516) 228-8484
Fax: (516) 228-8516

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